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it became plain that the high or low organization of the brain could thus be only very roughly determined.

The author correlates the development of the vermis with that of the axial ganglia, and concludes that the function of the cerebellum is psychic. Regarding the formation of the convolutions Jelgersma concludes that it is independent of the forces outside of the brain itself, and that both in the cerebrum and cerebellum the formation of convolutions is due to a localized tendency to superficial growth and mutual accommodation between the gray substance and the conducting white matter.

*Monstres Cyclopes.* C. PHISALIX. Journal de l'Anatomie et de la Physiologie, etc. Janvier, Février, 1889.

The monsters are all mammalian and the cyclopean type is illustrated by one case from man, one from a dog, and two from sheep. The parts concerned are carefully and minutely described with a view to determining to what extent the abnormalities are correlated. The conclusion of the argument is that nutritive, not mechanical causes must be called in to explain these cases; and it is urged that with this point in view monsters should be studied histologically. From the anatomical side it is made out that the cyclopean condition is always associated with arrested development of the fore-brain; and that the relations of the choroid plexus show that the plexuses of the lateral and third ventricles, which in the adult are in connection, have an independent development and become fused later. In the case of the dog sensory branches were found arising from the fourth nerve (patheticus), thus supporting Phisalix view on the spinal type of some of the cranial nerves. (See AM. JOUR. PSY., Vol. 1, p. 492.)

*Experimenteller Beitrag zur Kenntniss der Hörnervenursprungs beim Kaninchen.* Prof. BUMM. Jahressitzung des Vereins der deutschen Irrenärzte 1888. Allg. Zeitschr. f. Psychiatrie, etc. Bd. 45, Heft 5 and 6, 1889.

Four rabbits were operated three days after birth. In *A* and *B* the left acusticus was cut; in *C* the left cerebellar hemisphere removed, and in *D* the vermis. *A* and *B* were killed after three weeks, *C* after six months, and *D* after six weeks. Examination of the posterior auditory root in *A* showed, according to the author, that this root rises from the tuberculum acusticum and the anterior auditory nucleus (terminology of Forel-Onufrowicz) and that both these ganglia are also in connection with the fibres of the corpus trapezoides. Rabbit *B* showed that the anterior auditory root rose (in part) from the cells and network ventrad of the nucleus of Deiters. It is concluded from *C* and *D* that the posterior auditory root is not connected with the cerebellum, whereas the anterior has a partial origin somewhere in the vermis. On the central paths of the auditory fibres his specimens throw no light.

*The relations between the superficial origins of the spinal nerves from the spinal cord and the spinous processes of the vertebræ.* R. W. REID. Journal of Anatomy and Physiology, Vol. XXIII, April, 1889.

Taking the spinous processes as his landmarks, Reid, by careful dissection of six subjects, has gotten a series of results which are

presented in two tables and two plates. He first determined that the variation in the level of origin between the sensory and motor nerves of the same segment did not exceed three mm. in any case. In making the investigation then the cord was exposed so as to show the posterior nerve roots and at the same time leave half the spinous process in place. Five of the specimens were adult males, one an adult female. The first table gives the upper and lower limit for each posterior root. The second table is condensed from the first to give the maximum variation, and the second plate graphically represents the results in the second table. The result shows great variability in the superficial origin of the spinal nerves when referred to the spinous processes.

*On nerve tracts degenerating secondarily to lesions of the cortex cerebri.*  
C. S. SHERRINGTON, M.A. (Preliminary communication). Journ. of Physiology, Vol. X, No. 5., July, 1889.

In 1884 Sherrington worked over some material put at his disposal by Prof. Goltz with a view to finding whether in dogs the location of the lesion in the cord could be connected with the portion of the "cord area" (*i. e.*, that region of the cerebral cortex the removal of any part of which causes a degeneration in the spinal cord) which was removed. He soon found that the appearance of the cord lesion was so dependent on the time elapsing between operation and autopsy that it was first necessary to study the variations due to this factor. In the present paper he returns to the original question of determining "to what extent there is in the pyramidal tracts a grouping of nerve fibers corresponding to the grouping of nerve cells in the cord area of the cerebral cortex." The experiments were mainly on monkeys (*Macacus*). In these animals the pyramidal tract was found to occupy three fourths of the transverse area of the crista a little above the pons; and to extend as low as the origin of the coccygeal nerve roots. It was further noticed in the cord of *Macacus* that from the level of the 2d lumbar nerve roots a considerable portion of the tract lies outside the direct cerebellar tract, thus separating the latter from the periphery of the lateral column. "After a cortical lesion of less than 30 square mm. extent the degeneration in the cord was found scattered over the whole transverse area of the tract." This furnishes a negative answer, therefore, to the initial question. The only grouping among these fibers passing from cortex to cord, was indicated by the fact that the more mesial and anterior cerebral lesions were followed by degeneration which (in the cervical cord) abutted on the direct cerebellar tract, whereas following removal of the more posterior and lateral cortical portions the degeneration about the cerebellar tract was less evident.

Further examination indicated that the "re-crossed" pyramidal fibers were well developed in the monkey in the cervical and lumbar enlargements. The "re-crossed" tracts are continuous with the fibers that have once crossed in the pyramidal decussation and are formed by fibers which pass back again to the side from which they came. According to Sherrington, they are probably due to branching of the crossed fibers. Fibers thus branching are designated as "geminal fibers," and their existence is supported by the fact that fibers are frequently found in pairs in the same stage of degeneration; that two axis cylinders are found in one sheath, and that the geminal fibers are most abundant in the crossed tract.